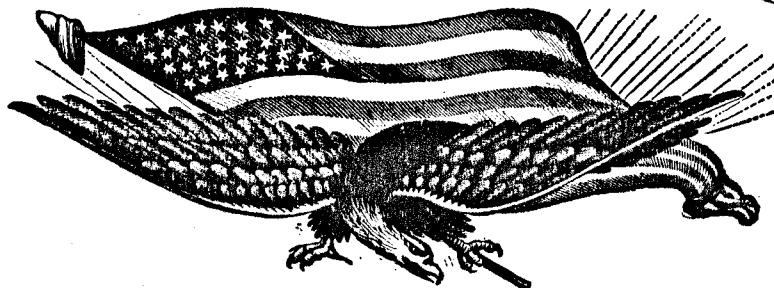


# DEAF MUTE GAZETTE



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## THE National Deaf Mute Gazette

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### ANATOLE.

#### Chapter 11.

Already many richly dressed ladies adorned the saloons of Madame de Nangis, while a still larger number of gentlemen attended them, addressing compliments, more or less sincere, upon their dress or their beauty. The artists who were to furnish the entertainment of the evening waited apparently only for the word of the mistress of the mansion, to commence the concert. She was about to give the signal when the prima donna, advancing respectfully toward her, declared as politely as possible, that nothing in the world could induce her to sing a note if her usual accompanist were not at the piano. Vainly did Madame de Nangis urge her to accept the services of some one of the highly accomplished and talented musicians who were present

and were, as she believed quite, worthy that honor.

The great singer remained immovable in her determination; and Madame de Nangis was forced to send for this indispensable confidant of the *intentions musicales* of the Signora de B—. This discussion excited alarm in the brilliant assembly. From the air of dissatisfaction upon the countenance of Madame de Nangis and the numerous gestures of the Signora which seemed to say, "It is impossible," it was inferred that she refused to sing. Disappointment was universal, and those who could least appreciate an Italian air appeared to be most inconsolable.

The Chevalier d' Emerange was deputed to ascertain from Madame de Nangis if there were any hope. He took advantage of the opportunity to enquire of the countess whether her sister in law were among the pretty women whom she had assembled.

"No," replied she, "if Madame de Saverny were here you would have already discovered her."

"I am afraid," replied the chevalier "that *un chapeau de Nevers* would be easily enough recognised in this saloon."

"*Vraiment*, it would not be more ridiculous than that of Madame de R—. That lady should be very confident of her powers of conversation thus to muffle up her face. Observe the crowd about her and say then that without good taste and elegance one cannot please!"

"I shall always say so when you are to be seen although I may be obliged to combat all the champions of Madame de R's ugliness."

Madame de Nangis not desiring to reply to this flattery reminded the chevalier that the ladies waited for him. He had quite forgotten this and returned to them, saying,

"Do not be uneasy, a trifling accident retards your enjoyment, but you will soon hear her."

"Of whom do you speak?" replied one of those whom he addressed, with an air of astonishment.

"But did you not enquire whether the Signora B—would sing this evening?"

"Ah! a thousand pardons!" exclaimed every one, "we had forgotten your extreme complaisance."

"And the singer also," said the chevalier, "I am not surprised. One is always punished for delay." In fact, the same persons who a moment before were almost in despair at the idea of not hearing the voice of the celebrated *virtuoso*, were now almost as much opposed to the interruption of a conversation which amused them. It is thus

in France that *les plaisirs de l'esprit* are paramount.

Madame de Nangis, well assured of this truth, foresaw the trouble which would attend an effort to restore general attention in favour of a quartrain of Haydn, which though well executed was badly listened to. To this succeeded a sonata by a German pianist, which was just beginning to quiet the assembly, when Madame de Nangis, without regard for the poor professor, exclaimed "Ah! here is M. Augustini!" This was the name of the much desired accompanist. Each repeated it and congratulated Madame de Nangis on the happiness of having been able to secure him, and it was amid the noise of these felicitations that the last notes of the German sonata expired, while no one dreamed of applauding the author.

Madame de Nangis merely paid the usual compliments, *de maitresse de maison*, which signify no more than a wish to obtain a reputation for politeness toward all guests.

At last, the moment for appreciating the talent of la Signora B— arrived, and Madame de Nangis rejoiced in beholding the object of her soirée accomplished. She was no longer tormented by the fear of having assembled so many people only to weary them. M. de Nangis would have shared her satisfaction but for an annoyance of another sort. The Princess de L. for whom he had for some time been reserving the best place, having just arrived, occupied a chair behind several other ladies. M. de Nangis suffered martyrdom at seeing the princess so badly situated and deplored the impossibility of offering her the seat of another. Happily for him, Madame de Nangis, more affected by her husband's painful position than by that of the princess, interrupted the long ritornella of a grand Italian air, to place a *fauteuil* and conduct the princess to a seat upon it.

These interruptions annoyed the Signora B— to the last degree while the expression of her countenance made no mystery of her feelings, but the enthusiasm inspired by the first tones of her fine voice gave her patience to endure even the new vexations that awaited her. One of the keenest of these was the sound of all the clocks in the saloons in the most exquisite passages; but for the ill timed "bravo!" and other boisterous signs of admiration, her indulgence was extreme. So little do we perceive the inconvenience of that which flatters!

The sounds of applause reaching the antechambers, a servant took the opportunity of the pause in the performance to inform the comtesse of the arrival of her sister-in-law. Madame de Nangis had been expecting her impatiently for a whole week, and at any other time would have hastened with delight to embrace her, but thus to interrupt a grand concert by a family scene was, to her, ridiculous. To avoid it, she gave orders that Madame de Saverny should be shown to her apartment and informed that the comtesse would join her whenever she could escape for a moment.

At the name of the Marquise of Saverny, the Princess de L— exclaimed, "What, is it Madame de Saverny who is arrived? The charming woman who was last year at Vichy, and who so kindly received me when my carriage broke down near her chateau? Where is she? let nothing prevent me from hastening at once to embrace her." The servants replying that they had, in obedience to Madame's orders, conducted the Marquise to the little boudoir, the princess desired to go directly there, and Madame de Nangis was forced to accompany her. They found Madame de Saverny somewhat disconcerted by her reception. The sound of her carriage wheels had been unnoticed. Arriving in the vestibule, she had been forced to pass a line of servants before reaching the apartments of the comtesse, and to dispute with one and another to prevent their announcing her in the saloon. Observing the simplicity of her attire and considering her

unworthy of the honors of the concert, one of them had taken her quietly to a boudoir and recommended her not to make the least noise. She had remained there for a quarter of an hour, meditating upon the difference of this reception from the hopes which had occupied her on the way, when the princess threw herself into her arms, lavishing upon her every expression of the most tender friendship. Madame de Nangis joined them, but all her efforts to prove her delight at meeting her dear Valentine, feebly concealed the impatience she felt to return to the saloon. Mad. de Saverny soon understood this and begged her sister to interrupt the concert no longer, desiring permission to wait until the close in her apartment, but the princess would not consent to this—"Madame la Comtesse," said she, "suffer her not to leave us, positively she must listen to the singing of Mad. B—. It is a pleasure that cannot be deferred since she returns immediately to Italy."

"Ah! Madame, excuse me," replied Valentine, "I am in my travelling dress. Ah! what do you require?" interrupted the princess, "your robe of black taffeta becomes you admirably, and with this blonde frill and straw hat you are lovely as an angel; come, go with us, for if you remain here I shall not leave you." Madame de Saverny resisted the entreaties of the princess until a message from Mons. de Nangis that the absence of the ladies was very annoying, determined her to prolong it no farther. She sacrificed with a good grace the gratification of her vanity to the desire of her two friends, and resigned herself to them, appearing the least adorned of all the brilliant women in those saloons without suspecting that she was of them all the most beautiful.

#### Kansas Deaf and Dumb Asylum.

The pupils of this excellent institution, under the direction of Prof. Jenkins, gave a highly interesting exhibition to the Legislature in joint convention in Representative Hall, February 11th at 11 o'clock. Prof. J. in introducing the pupils, made a few appropriate remarks; he said that some 31 expeditions, 25 vessels, and upwards of four millions of dollars had been employed to discover the fate of Sir John Franklin locked up in the very fastnesses of the far North; and why, because a human being had been lost to science and the world. The sympathies of the whole civilized world has been aroused in his behalf, and it was a splendid tribute to our civilization that our sympathies could be thus awakened for a lost human being. Here are mute children, one in every 2,000 people, lost to the world of art, of learning, and mute to all sounds that awaken sympathies in the human heart.

The deaf and dumb asylum of our State numbers 25 pupils, and is under the charge of Prof. Jenkins, who was a teacher for 11 years in Illinois, and had had some 16 years experience in connection with deaf and dumb institutions. Unless appearances are greatly deceiving, he is the right man in the right place. He is a live man, and an active, practical educator. The State of Kansas has evidently made a most valuable acquisition in securing the services of so competent a gentleman, and one who is so thoroughly in love with his calling and impressed with its responsibilities. The State will not be slow in granting all necessary aid to an institution so admirably managed and conducted, and which appeals so strongly to every humane feeling that moves human kind.

The exhibition was exceedingly entertaining and gave the best of satisfaction. Little boys who had been connected with the institution but three months, gave an exhibition of fine writing, and showed they had made admirable progress in the acquisition of ideas and the comprehension of language. Young girls gave exhibitions of excellent progress in the art of composition, while the more advanced scholars give evidence of a good measure of scholarship.

There was but one opinion among the large audience as to the success of the exhibition. It made a most admirable impression upon all who witnessed the entertainment.

AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN SYSTEMS  
OF DEAF-MUTE INSTRUCTION. COMPARED.

BY

Edward M. Gallaudet.  
President of National Deaf-Mute College.

A review of the history of deaf-mute education reveals the fact that great diversities of opinion as to the most desirable means of instruction have been coexistent with the work itself. A record of controversies, of angry disputes even, appears in a department of labor where from its nature and from the sad condition of its objects one would naturally expect the gentlest feelings of the heart to be ever uppermost.

These differences seem to have had their origin in opposite conceptions formed of the psychological condition of the deaf-mute. This was thought on the one hand to be an abnormal state of being. Dumbness was considered as a positive quality, the presence of which rendered its subject a monstrosity. The command of spoken language was deemed absolutely essential to a development of the intellectual powers.

The possibility of education was therefore thought to depend on the ability of the pupil to acquire the power of speech.

Hence all labor was directed primarily to the education of the mute from his supposed abnormal state, and his induction, as far as possible, into the normal condition of speaking persons.

By another class of thinkers the deaf-mute was deemed to be a normal creature; that is to say perfect of his kind, although lacking some of the powers of other men. Dumbness was regarded as a negative quality, inability to speak constituting no obstacle to a full and vigorous mental development. Education on this theory, therefore, sought means to adapt itself to the condition and capabilities of its object, the initiatory step in both cases necessarily being the establishment of a competent channel of communication between teacher and pupil.

Heinicke, who founded in Germany, in the year 1760 the method in which the deaf-mute is regarded as an abnormal creature, held to the view that "the written word can never become the medium of thought." That said he "is the sole prerogative of the voice. Without an acquaintance with spoken language a deaf-mute child can never become anything more than a writing machine, or have anything beyond a succession of images passing through his mind." Consistency, therefore, with such a foundation left him no alternative in the use of material for his super structure.

Speech! Speech! Speech! from base to turret.

De l' Epee, on the other hand, the author of that method which ascribes to the deaf-mute nothing unnatural or monstrous as to his conformation, which sees no inherent obstacles in the way of mental fruitage, took him as he found him; already possessed of a language, imperfect it is true but of easy acquirement by the teacher and as susceptible of expansion and perfection as any dialect of spoken utterance.

Denying the dependence of thought on speech, de l' Epee found a means of communication between himself and his pupils, in a visible language which conveys thought from one to another as surely through the medium of the hand and eye as is done by means of that which employs the tongue and ear.

The theory entering into the construction of this foundation, unlike that of Heinicke, imposed no restriction on de l' Epee in the use of materials in his edifice, but, on the contrary, left him and his disciples free to adopt whatever means ingenuity might devise or, omit experience recommend, as serviceable in the great work they had to perform.

The real point of difference then, between Heinicke and de l' Epee is discovered to lie in a purely philosophical question, the solution of which, in a hundred years of practical labor, proves the former to have been plainly in the wrong, and the latter as clearly in the right.

That much of real good to suffering humanity has resulted from the efforts of both these pioneers in the work of general deaf-mute instruction every candid person will admit; that either was faultless or omniscient none will claim; nor yet, it is to be hoped, will it be maintained that the system of either is entirely destitute of worth.

To that of Heinicke must be accorded the merit, if merit it be, of

having the more ambitious aim, though experience has proved his object to have been unattainable; while to that of de l' Epee must be awarded the praise of practical success and much wider applicability.

In reviewing the present condition of deaf-mute schools in Europe, all the systems in use are found to involve one or both of these fundamental methods. In certain places articulation is made the object of transcendent importance, while in some localities it is entirely rejected; and again institutions are found where attempts have been made to harmonize and combine the once conflicting methods.

The imparting of the power of intelligible oral utterance to one born totally and incurably deaf is an achievement so nearly approaching the miraculous as to dazzle the mind and well nigh unsettle the judgment of him who, for the first time, has convincing proof of its possibility.

Indeed one of the earliest recorded instances of deaf-mute instruction in England in the seventh century by the Bishop of Hagulstad, is alluded to in the well known work of Bede, as a miracle, when it was doubtless nothing more than has been accomplished by teachers of articulation in later times.

That toto-congenitally deaf persons have been taught to speak fluently and in tones that could be understood by strangers is an indisputable fact.

The inference, however, drawn by some writers and even, though rarely, by practical teachers that because success is attained with one such case, it is therefore to be expected with all or nearly all, has not been sustained by actual results.

Among more than one hundred instructors recently consulted by the author of this article during his examinations of forty-four of the most prominent deaf-mute schools of Europe, but one was found who claimed that success in articulation might be looked for as the rule among deaf-mutes. And this gentleman, acknowledging that many deaf-mutes, even in respectable German schools where articulation was made the basis of instruction, did not acquire the power of speech, ascribed the failure to a want of skill or industry on the part of their teachers, thus assuming to sit on judgment on the great body of German instructors whose zeal, ability and infinite good temper have received the applause of their most decided opponents.

The subject of teaching deaf-mutes to speak having been discussed at some length in our public journals during the past two or three years, and the claim having been made in certain quarters that the German system of instruction was productive of far more beneficial results than that obtaining in this country, it seemed important, in the tour of examination already spoken of, that special attention should be paid to the matter of articulation in the European States generally, and in the institutions of Germany in particular.

It is this particular line of effort, and this alone, which essentially differences many of the European deaf-mute establishments from those of this country. Hence in the comparison of methods proposed in the title of this paper, attention will be mainly directed towards a consideration of the practicability of teaching deaf-mutes by a system based on articulation as the prevailing principle of instruction.

The metaphysical blunder of Heinicke, the founder of this system, that thought is impossible without speech, is now everywhere acknowledged, even by the most zealous supporters of his practices.

The single instructor to whom reference has been made, as claiming the possibility of teaching all deaf-mutes by articulation is the able and distinguished Mr. Hirsch of Rotterdam, who may be taken as the most extreme and ultra advocate of this method in Europe.

His views on the subject are clearly expressed in the following terms quoted from an address delivered by him before the ninth scientific Congress of the Netherlands convened in Ghent last August.

"The object to be attained is to render possible the admission of the deaf-mute into society by teaching him to see, that is to understand the movements of the lips and to speak in his turn.

"To attain this end the act of seeing or comprehending and of speaking must be made the exclusive principle of instruction, and neither the palpable alphabet nor the language of signs can have any connection with it.

"The daily observations which I have made for more than thirty years that I have devoted to the deaf and dumb have convinced me that the art of seeing, speech in the movements of the mouth is the most important of all the branches of instruction and that therefore

it should be most sedulously cultivated.

"Next to the art of seeing or understanding, the act of speaking is the principal object of the instruction of the deaf and dumb. By this system ninety-nine out of every hundred deaf-mutes may be taught, and their progress will depend entirely on the talent and patience of the teacher; this truth too long and too coldly doubted is now penetrating everywhere."

These claims and opinions gravely put forth and no doubt fully believed in Mr. Hirsch, so far from being sustained by facts, are refuted and proved wholly untenable by a mass of evidence too strong to be questioned for a moment.

Not in a single instance was an instructor of deaf mutes met by the writer, who supported these last cited views of Mr. Hirsch, and in critical examinations of schools containing in the aggregate upwards of three thousand deaf mutes far less than fifty per cent were found succeeding with articulation.

Probably no practitioner of the so called German method more faithfully represents the views of his class of workers, than Mr. Hill of Weissenfels in the Prussian province of Saxony.

He has been engaged in teaching the deaf and dumb for upwards of forty years, has published many valuable professional works, and is everywhere looked up to as authority among his countrymen.

Mr. Hill says, in answer to queries recently propounded in regard to the proportionate success of his pupils in learning to speak and read from the lips:

"Out of one hundred pupils eighty-five are capable when leaving school of conversing on common place subjects with their teachers, family and intimate friends. Sixty-two can do so easily.

"Out of one hundred, eleven can converse readily with strangers on ordinary subjects. Others learn to do this after leaving school."

So far from agreeing with Mr. Hirsch that "the language of signs can have no connection with the process of instructing deaf-mutes," Mr. Hill in a recent work takes decided ground in favor of that leading agent in the system of de l' Epeé, which Heinicke declared to be no less than "delusive folly, fraud and nonsense."

Speaking of those who pretend that in the German schools every species of pantomimic language is proscribed he says: Such an idea must be attributed to malevolence or to unpardonable levity.

"This pretence is contrary to nature and repugnant to the rules of sound educational science.

"If this system were put into execution the moral life, the intellectual development of the deaf and dumb would be inhumanly hampered. It would be acting contrary to nature to forbid the deaf mute a means of expression employed even by hearing and speaking persons \* \* \* it is nonsense to dream of depriving him of this means until he is in a position to express himself orally. \* \* \*

"Even in teaching itself we cannot lay aside the language of gestures (with the exception of that which consists in artificial signs and in the manual alphabet, two elements proscribed in the German school) the language which the deaf-mute brings with him to school, and which ought to serve as a basis for his education.

"To banish the language of natural signs from the school room and limit ourselves to articulation is like employing a gold key which does not fit the lock of the door we would open, and refusing to use the iron one made for it \* \* \* at the best it would be *drilling* the deaf-mute but not *moulding* him intellectually and morally."

Mr. Hill then goes on to make an extremely philosophical analysis of the sign language and its special uses under thirteen different heads, which it would be tedious to detail in this connection, but which has been translated and will be given to the public at no distant day.

It is to be borne in mind that this gentleman is one of the most successful teachers of articulation living, that he was trained in a German school and has given a life-time of labor to this peculiar species of deaf-mute instruction.

When he claims therefore but eleven per cent of his graduates as being able to converse readily with strangers on ordinary subjects, the inference is unavoidable that the system founded by Heinicke, which would make articulation the fundamental principle of instruction has, as a system, on which the mass of those for whose benefit it was devised may be taught, most completely and signally failed, and this too in a country where it has had every opportunity for success that could be afforded by Governmental patronage, private benevo-

lence, undisputed sway, the labor of scores of talented and indefatigable men, and a hundred years of trial.

Nay more, the schools of Heinicke and his disciples have only been able to succeed in educating the large majority of their pupils by the adoption and practice of that much abused but ever indispensable language of signs, the discovery and adaptation of which will reflect immortal glory on the memory of de l' Epeé.

And it is not until within a comparatively brief period that this fact, long understood by experts, has been admitted in the frank and honest manner of Mr. Hill.

This adverse judgment as to articulation as a system of education for the mass of so called deaf-mutes, must not, however, be taken as a total condemnation of its practice in cases where success is possible. Among this class there always appears a varying proportion of persons who acquired deafness after having learned to speak.

The power of speech in these having already germinated, may in nearly every instance, be cultivated and brought to a good degree of perfection.

Others also who having once heard, became deaf before gaining any command of language, may in some instances learn to speak and read from the lips. Others still, born partially deaf and retaining defective hearing, may do the same; while a very few are found born totally deaf, who may acquire artificial speech to a useful extent. But taking all these classes together, we fall short of reaching a majority, or even a large minority, of the so called deaf and dumb who can achieve sufficient precision or clearness of utterance to be able to make themselves understood by strangers.

No argument will be necessary to secure from intelligent minds the admission of the fact that not all persons are endowed with a talent for music; that not every human being can succeed in art essays; that few men are capable of oratory and fewer still of poetry. So well established by the experience of ages are these conclusions, that a teacher of youth would be thought little removed from insanity who should attempt to make all his pupils poets or orators, or artists, or musicians, though all might learn to sing, to draw after a fashion, to declaim and even to rhyme.

And at the same time he who should endeavor to foster and develop talents for painting, sculpture, oratory or poetry, wherever among his pupils he found these choice gifts in existence, would draw forth universal commendation.

Thus experience proves it to be with articulation among the deaf and dumb. To the mass it is unattainable, save in degrees that render it comparable to those sculptures and paintings that never find a purchaser; to books and poems that are never read; to music that is never sung. Involving much patient labor on the part of teacher and pupil it exhibits only that limited degree of success which honest criticism is compelled to stamp as no better than failure.

And yet, when the congenial mute *can master* oral language the triumph both of teacher and pupil is as deserving of praise as the achievement of true art, music, poetry or oratory.

The actual removal of the affliction of deaf-dumbness may be looked for only at the hands of Him who when on earth spoke the potent "*Ephphatha*" as a proof of His divinity. But those who labor in His name in behalf of His stricken ones should welcome every means of lessening the disabilities under which the objects of their care are found to rest.

And so while articulation has failed as a system the method has proved so useful in certain cases that it has been adopted among the institutions of Europe until of thirty-three continental schools recently visited by the writer but one was found where it was not regularly taught.

The introduction of stated instruction in artificial speech and lip reading to those found capable of acquiring it, (this task to be performed by additional teachers,) would undoubtedly prove a valuable accession to the system of deaf-mute education as now carried forward in this country. And no obstacle stands in the way of adoption of such an improvement by the existing institutions.

In those European schools where articulation has been accepted as an adjunct, the main reliance being on the language of signs, the manual alphabet and writing, the highest degree of general success in a given term of years has most unquestionably been attained.

No time is wasted, out of respect to exploded but ancient ideas, in vain attempts to achieve that which if gained at all will be of no

practical value to its possessor, while at the same time no efforts are spared to impart any and every species of useful knowledge, attainable to the pupils according to their various abilities.

No candid person at all conversant with the wants and powers of the deaf and dumb, and familiar with the workings of our American institutions for this class of persons, who will examine critically similar institutions in Europe, can escape the conviction that in essentials ours equal the best, and far surpass the great majority of foreign schools.

So entirely defensible, both in the soundness of its theories and the success of its practical workings, is the American system of deaf mute instruction, that he who should attempt in the light of the present advanced age, to build anew from the starting points of the Holders and Wallises, the Ammans and the Heinickes of former centuries, or even to experiment with methods of whose worthlessness the most ample proofs exist, would richly deserve the contempt and reproach which would be swift to follow upon his certain failure. With the addition, easily affected, of classes for articulation in our existing institutions, in the manner generally adopted on the continent of Europe, the deaf-mute schools of the United States may justly claim to be exercising every means at present employed in any country for the most thorough and enlightened education of their pupils.

And yet it must be confessed that there exists a common defect from which no system can claim to be free.

It is a fact, admitted abroad as well as at home, that very many deaf-mutes of fair intelligence, on leaving school, after a five, six or seven years course of study under faithful and accomplished teachers, have not acquired an ability to express their thoughts on all subjects in absolutely correct written language. In other words they have not learned to think in their vernacular. They commit errors in composition that are termed by their teachers deaf-mute-isms, and which can hardly be described except by examples.

It will be unnecessary to enter into an argument to prove that a child born deaf labors under great and peculiar disadvantages in acquiring language.

All teachers whether basing their efforts on articulation or signs, agree in acknowledging the difficulty of imparting to their pupils the power of idiomatic, and absolutely grammatical, composition.

The great loss of that daily and almost hourly tuition in conventional and exceptional forms of language, received passively, but none the less effectively, by hearing children, is apparent in the deaf mute at almost every step of his education.

Common justice would seem to demand that a period of tuition in school equally extended with that afforded to their more favored fellows, should be accorded to the deaf and dumb. That such a length of time is secured, when they are limited to five or six years for the acquirement of a new and complicated language, and for all the education wherein they are ever to receive the assistance of competent teachers, no one will undertake to claim.

That the defect just alluded to might be removed in great measure by an extension of the period of tuition and the beginning of the education of the mute at an earlier age than has been customary, is most probable.

Great interest therefore attaches to efforts recently inaugurated in England and in this country for the establishment of infant schools for the deaf and dumb.

At Manchester, England, an institution of this description has been in operation several years. but not as yet a sufficient time to exhibit full results, and if the school recently opened at Northampton Mass., be kept rigidly within the bounds of its present organization it may solve the question whether a general system of infant schools for mutes be desirable, than which a more important point does not remain to be decided in the whole range of effort for this class of persons.

The idea has been brought rather prominently before the public in the United States during the past two years that special institutions for the deaf and dumb are to a great extent unnecessary, and that this class of persons may with little difficulty be educated wholly or in large part in schools for hearing and speaking children.

The opinions and writings of a certain Dr. Blanchet of Paris have been cited in support of this theory and it has been claimed that success has attended efforts exerted in this direction.

To one who has made the instruction of the deaf and dumb his

daily labor for any extended period, the discussion or even the suggestion of an idea so impracticable seems the height of absurdity.

The public generally, however, understand so little the condition and capabilities of the deaf-mute, that they may be led to believe the most impossible things as quite feasible, provided he who recommends them be ingenious in his arguments and persistent in his efforts.

In several countries of Europe attempts have been made to effect the education of mutes in the common schools, ending uniformly in failure: the highest end attained being the preparation of the child in some small degree for the essential work of the special institution.

The recommendations of Dr. Blanchet have been followed in certain schools for a considerable period, with results so decided as to lead to the hope among the true friends of the deaf and dumb that all further experiments in this direction may be abandoned.

A single incident which came to the notice of the writer in Paris will serve to show how entire has been the failure of the so called Blanchet system

On entering the office of the Director of the Paris Institution one day I found there a mother and son, the latter fifteen years of age.

He was deaf and dumb and had been attending for eight years a common school where the teachers had endeavored to instruct him on the Blanchet system.

He has attained no success in articulation and in his attempts at written language committed errors that would be regarded as inexcusable in a pupil of two years standing in our special schools.

His mother was seeking to secure his admission into the Paris institution that he might be educated before he became too old; and I feel justified in claiming from what I saw and heard, that the benefit he had derived from his eight years' instruction in the common school was less than would have been secured by two years enjoyment of the advantages of the Paris Institution.

Professor Vaisse, the Director, informed me that this was but one of many similar cases which had been brought to his notice, and that the testimony of competent witnesses was agreed as to the entire failure of the Blanchet system in France.

#### A New Charade.

My first rode forth in the olden time  
A sainted Christian Knight,  
Strong to battle with sin and crime,  
Victor in many a fight.  
May we all like him, our dragons slay,  
The dragons that bar the heavenly way.  
My second, born of a lordly line,  
And bred in the smiles of a king,  
Left courts to preach the word divine  
And his Savior's love to sing.  
May we all like him, the Bible hold  
More precious than a mine of gold.  
My third that long has lain in the earth  
Is coming to the day,  
Prompt to cheer—to warm the hearth,  
To drive the train on its way.  
May we all, as well with willing mind,  
Spend and be spent to serve mankind.  
My whole looks out on a world that is new,  
God give him strength and grace,  
To fare like my first who all foes o'erthrew,  
Like my second to win the Christian race,  
Like my third ever ready with warm heart still  
To comfort men and to do his Maker's will.

#### NOTICE.

Copies of Mr. Angus oration gotten up in a neat form of thirty-six pages, including all addresses and full Report of the proceedings of the late semi-centennial convention in New York are now ready for mailing (pre-paid) to any address on receipt of twenty-five cents.

Address H. C. Rider.

Mexico, Oswego Co, N. Y.



## FACTS ABOUT THE DEAF AND DUMB... Continued.

## CLXXVI. PROF. CLERC'S AND HIS DUTY.

The late Dr. Gallaudet, having become intimate with Mr. Clerc, asked him if he would like to go to America with him, to which he replied that he would. Soon after, he called at the office of Sicard, and told him what Dr. G. said. Sicard replied that he would be foolish to accompany him to America. Mr. Clerc insisted that it was his duty to go and teach the ignorant American mutes. Sicard advised him to see his parents on the subject, which he accordingly did, and they did not object to his going on the mission.

## CLXXVII. PROF. CLERC AND THE BATTLE OF WATERLOO.

In 1815, while Prof. Clerc was in London with Sicard, to give an exhibition, which was attended by the Duke of Kent, the Duchess of Wellington and the Duke of Orleans, afterwards Louis Philippe, he was present at the House of Lords, then in session, when the prince regent came in person to announce to both houses the battle of Waterloo and the flight of Napoleon, the rise and fall of whose empire he had witnessed. He had grown up amid the scenes of the French Revolution and the reign of terror.

## CLXXVIII. A DUMB MAN CURED BY PRAYER.

Joseph Norris, residing in the vicinity of Richmond, Ind., having lost the use of his speech entirely about two weeks previous, was recommended by his physician to the free use of whiskey or brandy as a remedy. He tried the prescription for about three days, using brandy and eggs so freely that during that time he kept himself thoroughly under its influence, but without the desired effect. It did not work a cure on him as the same remedy did on a lady in the neighborhood of Cambridge City, an account of whose cure was published in the June number of the Gazette (in the 54th item).

On Sunday night Mr. Norris started to attend the Methodist meeting, held at Mount Pleasant, about three miles from his city, and while on his way he became impressed with the idea that, if he would get down on his knees in the road and pray, his speech would be restored. So powerful did this impression become, that he obeyed the premonition, and there in the road he poured out his supplication to God, asking him, if consistent with his divine will, to restore his lost speech. After concluding his prayer, he arose from his knees and went on towards the place of meeting, no perceptible good having been accomplished by his efforts. As he neared the meeting-house, the same inward prompting, that "still, small voice," implied him to again "pray to him that heareth in secret," and the result was that he was "rewarded openly," for almost instantly his speech again came to him, and during the meeting he told his experience and gave to God the glory of his miraculous cure. Truly,

"God works in a mysterious way his wonders to perform."

## CLXXIX. HIS WISH ANSWERED.

In the neighborhood of Hitchen, in Hertfordshire, England, there lived, some years ago, a laboring man who, having a cross child, frequently wished, with an oath, that his next child might be both deaf and dumb. He afterwards had three children, all of whom were deaf and dumb.

## CLXXX. HIS INTOXICATED MOTHER.

A deaf and dumb boy, thirteen years of age, educated at the Edinburg School for such persons, after an absence of four years, went home to see his mother. When he entered her house, in company with his benefactor, she was sitting in a state of intoxication, which greatly affected him. He took his pencil, and attempted to

show her the evil and danger of such conduct, and gave her much good advice. After retiring with his friend, at whose house he went to lodge, his countenance became very sorrowful, and the tears trickled down his cheeks. His friend asked him the occasion of all this, when he wrote that he was thinking, if he got to heaven, how sorry he should be not to find his mother there.

## CLXXXI. KILLED WHILE DEFENDING A WOMAN.

In Louisville, Ky., a deaf mute, named Altmeyer, was stabbed and instantly killed, in the house of a woman, by one or two men who went there for the purpose of assaulting her. The deaf mute interfered to protect her, and was stabbed by one of the men.

It was said of an ancient poet that he was so thin and light that lead was fastened to his shoes to prevent his being blown away. The story is told by a writer who at the same time and in the gravest manner discredits it; for, says he, "How could he carry about sufficient weight to prevent his being blown away, if he was so weak as to be unable to resist the sea breeze?" This matter-of-fact way of regarding a humorous fable is exceedingly amusing, and recalls a somewhat similar criticism upon the following American story: A traveller, after a long journey, anxiously looked about for some inn where his jaded horse might have a bait; but no accommodation being found, he sought a grassy spot for pasturage, but without success. In this dilemma he produced a pair of green glass spectacles and placed them on the horse's face, and led him into a carpenter's yard, where the deluded animal immediately commenced his meal upon shavings and sawdust. The absurdity of this story produced a laugh in all but one hearer, who, after a few moments of solemn abstraction, exclaimed—"I beg your pardon, sir, but I doubt your story; for I cannot understand how the spectacles could have been fixed on the horse's nose." How true is the saying, "*The prosperity of a jest lies in the ear of him who hears it.*"

## Proceedings of the Board of Managers of the New England Gallaudet Association.

In accordance with previous notice, the Board met in the rooms of the Boston Deaf-Mute Christian Association January 1st at ten o'clock A. M. Present Messrs. Wing, Sanger, Chase, Rowe, Clark, Read, and Holmes. Prayer was offered by Mr. Sanger. The President remarked that this was a *business* meeting, and speech making was not in order. He would show his appreciation of this by saying no more and requesting the Board to proceed to business.

The report of the Treasurer, showing a balance of cash on hand of forty-three dollars and thirteen cents and no bills outstanding was submitted and accepted.

On motion of Mr. Chase, it was unanimously resolved that the secretary be directed to issue return tickets without charge to members of the association and to no others.

A resolution complimentary to the NATIONAL DEAF-MUTE GAZETTE and its managers was adopted.

Considerable discussion followed upon the subject of the time and place of holding the next Biennial Convention. The 26th. of August was finally agreed upon. Several ballots, to determine the place had no results, the last being a tie vote, 3 for Boston and 3 for Brattleboro', Vermont. Further consideration of the matter was postponed till evening.

James. Denison Esq. of the National Deaf-Mute College, Washington D. C. was unanimously chosen Orator of the Day.

Wm. K. Chase and G. A. Holmes were appointed Committee of Arrangements.

Adjourned to 8½ p. m.

Met at 8½ p. m. The president gave his casting vote for Brattleboro', Vt.

Adjourned to meet at Brattleboro' the day of the Convention.



### FARMER'S COLUMN FOR MARCH.

Though the Almanac makers call March the first month of Spring, it is, in New York, Northern New Jersey and New England, much more properly the last month of winter. We can seldom begin to plow or make garden till the beginning of April, and sometimes not till the middle of that month.

However, as every farmer should have a good kitchen garden, something can always be done in March, in starting early plants by means of a *hot bed*; that is, a bed of horse dung, with a few inches of mould over it, and an old window sash with the glass in to cover the young plants in dully weather.

And it sometimes happens that oats may be sown or early potatoes and peas planted on light dry soils in this month.

March is a good time to clover seed, either on a damp covering of snow, or just before rain.

In this month pay particular attention to the daily currying both horses and cattle.

Get your fencing stuff ready, by sharpening the rails and holing the posts to set out your fences as soon as the frost is out of the ground.

Feed well your cows that have calves, your ewes that have lambs. A cow well fed at this season will pay for it in the greater value of the calf; and besides will give more milk all summer for being well fed and cared for now. An ewe, well fed, especially with a proportion of turnips or other roots, at the time when there is little or no pasture, will have a much better place, and be much more sure to raise her lamb.

Horses also should be well fed in March, that they may gain strength for the hard work that is before them in April.

You may save time by hauling out manure and having it ready piled in the fields.

Have all your tools ready for use.

Cut your scions for grafting, and put them in the cellar till next month.

J. R. B.

### AN ACROSTICAL ENIGMA.

1. A celebrated German teacher of deaf-mutes.
2. The father of the faithful.
3. The founder of a great city.
4. The maker of thunderbolts.
5. A Greek tragic poet.
6. An eminent English poet.
7. The first teacher of the Deaf and Dumb.
8. An eminent apostle.
9. The prophet whose mantle fell.
10. The prophet who received it.
11. A bishop to whom the Apostle wrote an epistle.

Take the initials of these names and find the name of one of the benefactors of the Deaf and Dumb.

J. R. R.

A baby costs two hundred dollars per annum says a young gentleman of Iowa City.

### The Iowa Institution for the Deaf and Dumb.

Special dispatch to the Chicago Times.

Council Bluffs, Jan 4th. 1868.

The Commissioners of the State Deaf and Dumb Asylum have accepted the site tendered by the citizens of Council Bluffs, and have just awarded the contract for building the same to Jacob Richards for the sums of three hundred thousand dollars. The structure is to be in the newest and best style, with the modern improvements, and is to be completed by October 1st. 1870.

The South Carolina Institution for the Deaf and Dumb has suspended operations for want of the usual appropriation from the Legislature.

### A HOUSE FOR MR. CLERC.

Some time last summer, an article signed "Dexter" was published in the *National Deaf-Mute Gazette*, in which it was proposed to the deaf-mutes throughout the country to make some substantial testimonial of their affection for the venerable Laurent Clerc. In the last January number of the same paper, another article appeared suggesting that a house be purchased in Hartford for Mr. Clerc, as a fitting and honorable tribute to his services, character and worth. All this is very well, provided anything is *done* to accomplish an object so truly desirable, and one to which deaf-mutes all over the country will rejoice to contribute. And we doubt not many speaking persons will be glad to add their gifts to the willing offerings of the mutes for this purpose. Such an effort is worthy the prompt attention of the thousands who have been benefitted by Mr. Clerc's coming to this country. His greatly advanced age, with a family dependent upon him, and the fact that the income from his small property, together with the pension allowed by the American Asylum since he retired from active duty, are entirely inadequate to his support, make it imperative that this plan be carried out at once.

In order to place this matter on a practical and sure footing, so that a house worth from \$6,000 to \$8,000 may be secured by the first of next May, the Rev. C. R. Fisher of Hartford has been requested, by the friends of this enterprise, to act as the receiver of funds for this object. Mr. Fisher has signified his willingness to act in his behalf: and money has already been given him for this purpose. Deaf-mutes and the friends of deaf-mute education are requested to forward their contributions, large or small, at once to the Rev. C. R. Fisher, Hartford, Conn.

Acknowledgments will be made every month in the *National Deaf-Mute Gazette* published in Boston, and also in the Hartford papers-Papers throughout the country are requested to give this prominent notice. We gladly give place to this appeal. Mr. Clerc left his native country where he was employed in a similar capacity, with a certainty of a sufficient salary and pension, and has labored here nearly fifty years. The American Asylum at Hartford is the parent institution of the country, and Connecticut has been justly proud of it. We do not, however, feel proud of the fact that Mr. Clerc, a man of superior ability, amiable, devoted and universally beloved, should be in straightened circumstances in his old age. It is superfluous in Connecticut, but it may not be amiss to say that the Rev. Mr. Fisher is known and highly esteemed by everybody here, and that he is just the man for the trust he has accepted. It would be easy to build a noble monument for Mr. Clerc; it ought to be easier to pay the debt that humanity and civilization owe him.

The *Round Table* wittily says: In view of General Grant's pretensions to the Presidency, it is somewhat surprising that his religious creed has not been ascertained and ventilated by the Christian press. Perhaps the hero's reticence has baffled their pious solicitude; if so, they may be gratified to learn that the General is reported, on good authority, to have attended, while in this city, Dr. Gallaudet's Church for Deaf-Mutes.

## EDITORIAL.



Crowded out—Messrs Carlin and Burnet's papers—They will appear in our next issue.

Editorial Letter—We could not find room for it in this number of our paper. It gives a description of the Editor's visit to Washington, Philadelphia and New York. It will appear in our next.

The movement in Mr Clerc's behalf is assuming good proportions.

Like trying to extinguish a prairie fire—Certain gentlemen trying to stop the advance movement in Maine and Massachusetts.

Wonder if the *Hartford Press* thinks the appointment of Mr. Hubbard on our Board of Education a good appointment.

Thanks—for the cordial reception of the February number of the *Gazette* by our deaf-mute friends. We propose to make it their Standard Bearer.

Wonderful—The progress of the deaf-mutes in Mr. Englesman's articulation school in New York. We have visited it recently.

Robbed—Mr. Carlin's house in New York of all his coats and sundry silver forks and spoons, etc. The Editor of the *Gazette* had left Mr. C's on his return home the very night of the robbery. Had he remained another night he would also have been left coatless and hatless. Good fortune attends Editors.

What we intend to do in our new schools—Teach the young deaf-mutes the English language.

Crowded out—A large amount of interesting matter including notices of the several Institution Reports.

Patient waiters are no losers.

The Levee of the Boston Deaf-Mute Christian Association on Washington's Birth day was well attended and the source of much enjoyment and pleasure.

Our motto—"Improvement and progress are duties."

John Smith tells some stubborn facts in another column.

President Gallaudet is a man of liberal ideas. We invite the attention of our readers to his paper in another column.

The *Hartford Evening Press* of Feb., 12, 1867, says "Mr. Carlin has considerable force of intellect, but is pugnacious and conceited. The remark which he makes (before the Mass Legislature) that no person from existing institutions ought to be selected as a Principal for the new one, (in Mass) in connection with the fact that he is an unsuccessful applicant for a situation as teacher in Hartford, sufficiently explains his hopes and resentments."

The editor of the *Gazette* presents his compliments to the editor of the *Press* and begs leave to inform him that if he will look over the files of the "*Gallaudet Guide*" for 1861, he will see this very idea then expressed by Mr. C. Now, pray tell us when Mr. Carlin made the application for the situation alluded to?

The *Hartford Evening Press* has no authority to speak for the deaf mutes of Massachusetts. To a man they uphold Gov. Bullock "a word to the wise is sufficient."

For the information of our readers and the rest of mankind, we would state that John Smith is no relation to our Mr Smith of Boston.

The *Hartford Evening Press* of Feb 12. 1867 says the first authenticated case of teaching the dumb to speak is that of Balaam's ass.

Does the *Press* mean to drag the deaf-dumb down on a level with "the brute that perisheth"? 1

#### Message of Governor Chamberlain of Maine.

The visit of the Governor and Council to the Perkins Institute for the Blind in Boston, and the American Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb, at Hartford, excited our deep interest. It was most gratifying to observe the faithful care and instruction that was given to those unfortunate children. The exemplifications of intellectual discipline at Hartford were most remarkable. I take great pleasure in commending those institutions to your continued favor. Applications have been received in behalf of persons desiring to avail themselves of a different system of deaf-mute instruction—the articulating method—which is thought to be better for those who are partially deaf or who have once learned to speak. This system is taught in a school recently opened in Northampton, Massachusetts, and I would recommend that the provision which now applies to our pupils in the American Asylum be extended to this school.

Not very long ago, Mr. P. G. Gillet, now the principal of Illinois Deaf Mute Institute, was travelling on board a train in a certain part of the sucker state. In the car in which he rode he happened to be the seat-companion of an interesting and good looking lady, who had with her her little son, not over two years old. This little boy Mr. Gillet admired very much, and in the course of a conversation with the lady, he happened to drop the following remark:

"Madam, you have got a very fine boy—I suppose he is a real sucker,"

"Oh, no sir," said the lady, blushing, "I have been raising him on the bottle!"

At the next stopping station, Mr. Gillet left his seat with his valise in his hand, ostensibly to get off the train, but in reality to take a seat in one of the other cars.

Where is the best place to dine?

At C. D. & I. H. PRESHO'S

10; 12 and 14 City Hall Avenue,

BOSTON.

At all hours of the day and seven days in week.



*For the Gazette.*

MR. EDITOR:—The writer in the National Deaf Mute Gazette expresses the feelings of a great many persons, both in this city and elsewhere, in regard to Mr. Laurent Clerc, the venerableman who has labored for the deaf and dumb longer and more arduously than any other man living. While he still can receive the homage and gratitude of the deaf mutes and of all their friends and all the friends of humanity, it should be felt as a privilege to do anything towards brightening and comforting his declining years. Most probably if he had remained in his native France, instead of leaving home and social privileges invaluable to him and which he could not enjoy elsewhere, to come a pioneer to this land, he might have been better appreciated. There he would now be honored and cared for and made to feel that his life long work was truly estimated.

He will not be long among us. Once, there was no guest at an evening party who was the source or recipient of more enjoyment than Mr. Clerc. Now, he still delights to meet his friends, but his strength is failing, and he can only take his daily walk and pass most of his time in quiet.

He is sure of one of those "many mansions" above which are prepared by him who remembers and rewards, as done unto himself, every effort in behalf of the unfortunate. His record is bright there. His place is with missionaries and philanthropists.

We shall realize this by and by when it is too late. But now that we still have the opportunity let it be improved, so that it may never be said that he was left to suffer in his old age because his adopted country failed to appreciate him as he deserved.

JUSTICE.

MR. EDITOR:—That ever-cherry, welcome, little monthly visitor—the *Gazette*—is due. Have pursued its interesting pages, more solid matter in it than usual, that must account for the great length of Dr. Peet's paper, which I have read with interest and pleasure; then for President Gallaudet's they will doubtless make excellent comparisons. Mr. Carlin's brief account of the late Levee in old "Hub" was very amusing to myself, if not to others; he wrote in a lively, merry strain, must be quite rejuvenated. From frequent allusions to Governor Bullock in your paper, should think the mutes all over the old Bay State esteem him as really a benefactor to the deaf and dumb; and thus he is well worthy this affection—who that lends a helping hand to the unfortunate, is not approved of by Heaven? There are many such noble characters throughout this our favored land, may God increase their number. The most important topic now exciting the mute mind in general, is that of articulation, and instructing the deaf and dumb, and as well as the rest, I may be permitted to express my own views upon the subject, vague though I know they may seem. Teaching those of our class articulation, who lose their hearing in early life, say perhaps at from four, five six years old and so on, may be very well, but to try to make a born mute talk would seem a task both laborious and useless. That new school for semi-mutes at Northampton, in your State, may yet bear good fruit, but we must wait and watch for the results. It may prove either a success or failure, we cannot see before us what may happen, so let circumstances take their proper course. To speak frankly, though a semi-mute, I do not practice articulation or lip-reading, most usually converse with my hearing friends by writing, or spelling single or double hand. The reason I do not use my voice, as I suppose I ought to, is simply because I do not think I should be intelligently understood. Mr. Carlin may think that the reason why semi-mutes acquire such a marked advantage over deaf

mutes in the fluency and correctness in the use of language either by spelling on the fingers or writing may be owing to articulation; he may be far from wrong here, it is true; but [please excuse egotism] my own ability to use language in the way the hearing do, does not depend at all either on articulation or lip-reading, rather from a constant habit of thinking and reading. I learned something of grammar while in the high class, and find it of much use to me now. It seems far from difficult to change sentences into different ways, however, it does not seem quite so easy to the deaf-mute to master grammar, a few of the most intelligent may succeed. Having been a compositor for the past eight years, I trust I have learned much more than I ever did at school.

New York City February, 1868

LOUISA.

There is a mute in Indiana, named Smith Williams, who was born in Hillsborough, Wagne, Co. He is a cripple. When eight years old, his brother leveled an unloaded gun at him in sport, which so frightened him that he ever afterwards was afraid of a gun.

One Autumn he was at his uncle's on a visit, and one morning he happened to see him take down his gun, perhaps to hunt squirrels or rabbits. Supposing his uncle was going to shoot him, he betook himself to an adjacent cornfield and crawled under a shack of corn, and there remained five days, when he was discovered by the dogs. It was rather cold at the time and his limbs were so frozen that he could hardly move. He was carried to the house, and a doctor called, who saw signs of mortification and amputated them at the knees.

He was educated in the Ohio Institution. He now resides at Union-city and is twenty-one years old. He has a good head and mind and writes well. He was in our city and visited our Institution. Our Society invited him to relate the circumstances of his misfortune, which he did as above stated. He has a knitting machine, and being a shoe-maker, he hopes by his industry to make a good living.

What excuse is for those two-legged vagabonds, who go around the country begging for an existence? They are far more able to work for themselves than this cripple, who sets a noble example of industry.

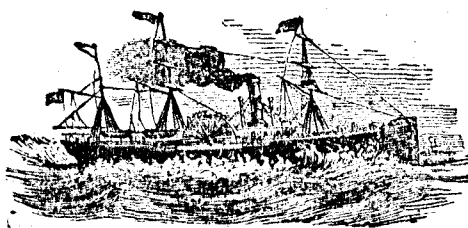
Stir up yourselves my two-legged friends, mute though you are, still you have two hands, with which you can lay up a little fortune by your industry, if you would but try.

W. M. F.

In the early part of his life, Mr. Whitefield the great Methodist, was preaching in an open field, when a drummer happened to be present who was determined to interrupt his pious business, and rudely beat his drum in a violent manner in order to drown the preacher's voice. Mr. Whitefield spoke very loud, but was not as powerful as the instrument. He therefore called out to the drummer in these words: "Friend, you and I serve the two greatest masters existing, but in different callings, you beat up for volunteers for King George, I for the Lord Jesus. In God's name, then, let us not interrupt each other; the world is wide enough for both; and we may get recruits in abundance." This speech had such an effect on the drummer, that he went away in great good humor and left the preacher in full possession of the field.

Mr. Angus's oration—See notice in another column.

## FOREIGN ITEMS.



**Association in Aid of the Deaf and Dumb of London.  
Christmas Gratuities.**

In accordance with the practice of this Society's, gratuities were distributed in various ways among the poorer portion of the Deaf Mutes in London. On Christmas evening, the materials of a good substantial dinner were given away by the Chaplain assisted by the Missionaries to 120 families—while on the following day 60 unmarried men, and youths were treated to an excellent dinner of roast beef and plum pudding in one of the City dining-rooms. The unmarried females had them to be thought of—to 300 of whom free tickets were presented that they might be enabled to enjoy themselves at the Annual Soiree, (an account of which will be found in another part of this paper.) Thus does this excellent society according to the circumstance of each case endeavour not only to ameliorate the condition of the poor mute, but also to shed a ray of comfort and happiness around his humble dwelling on each return of our great Christmas festival.

**Baptism of an Adult Deaf-Mute.**

The baptism of an adult deaf-mute named Reuben Winter aged 18 years took place in St. Jude's church a few Sundays evenings before Christmas day after evening service.

This youth had been receiving instruction for some time from Mr. Downing one of the Missionary agents to the deaf and dumb. And as he exhibited a due appreciation of the nature of this sacrament, he was duly baptized in the presence of his deaf and dumb brethren besides several of the hearing members of the congregation, who together with their pastor the Rev. I. Stuckland have always manifested a deep interest in their deaf and dumb brethren whose service is in the school room adjoining the Church.

**The Annual Christmas Soiree.**

In connection with the Association in Aid of the Deaf and Dumb was held in the Hanover square rooms, London, on Tuesday evening the 14th. January, under the presidency of the most noble the Marquis Townshend. Tea was served at 5 o'clock of which between seven and eight hundred of the deaf and dumb and their friends partook. The meeting was then addressed by the chairman who expressed his high approval of the manner in which the objects of the society are carried out.—he had only very lately become acquainted with its workings, but for the future it would give him pleasure to become one of its supporters.

The Rev. Samuel Smith, Chaplain and secretary of the association next addressed the meeting, using both the sign and vocal languages. Mr. Smith reviewed the history of the society and dwelt upon the many benefits which it has been enabled to confer upon the deaf and dumb of London, he trusted that the time was not very far distant, in which they would be able to hold such a meeting as the one then before him in a building of their own. The great difficulty at present

being to find a suitable site for the proposed church and officers.

I. Michael Esq. and A. P. Bather Esq., both members of the committee next addressed the meeting and moved a vote of thanks to the Marquis Townshend which was passed by acclamation—other addresses followed which were interpreted to the deaf and dumb. The amusements of the evening then began there consisted of Cremer's "Punch and Judy," Professor Matthew's extraordinary feats of legerdemain and the comic performances of the "Ole Kentucky Sere-naders" the meeting separated about 11 o'clock highly delighted by the evening's performances.

**DEAF AND DUMB ASSOCIATION.**—Last night the annual Christmas soiree of the "Association in Aid of the Deaf and Dumb" took place in the Hanover-square Rooms. The proceedings began with a tea, at five o'clock, after which the Marquis Townshend presided over a meeting of the guests in the large room. The noble chairman spoke warmly of the merits of the institution; and although its existence had only recently come to his knowledge, he meant to become one of its permanent supporters. This opening address of the president was at the same time spoken to the deaf and dumb present in the "sign language" by the Rev. S. Smith, secretary, who kept pace with the words of the Marquis Townshend by exceedingly rapid movements of his fingers, and by expressive gestures. Messrs. Jacob Michael, F. W. Smith, A. H. Bather, and the Rev. A. Buss further explained the position and objects of the association, which is a Church of England institution, formed for the purpose of giving secular and religious education to the deaf and dumb, by visiting them in their homes, helping them in their troubles, and inducing them by kindness to attend the evening classes and Sunday services provided for their benefit. The gross income last year was £889, of which amount the Corporation of the City of London gave 100 guineas. The previous year the gross income was £554, and the association spends all it receives, without being able to aid all the authenticated cases which deserve relief. As an instance, a motherless girl, twenty years of age, whose father has long served as a seaman in the Royal Navy, was introduced to the meeting. She had received no education of any kind, and the association wished to raise £10 a year to send her to a suitable school in the country. They wished the newspaper to call public attention to this case. The evening's proceedings closed with a variety of amusements provided by Messrs. Cremer, Matthews, and others.

*London Daily Telegraph. Jan. 1868.*

During the past year two deaths have occurred among the London deaf and dumb—first that of Mary Ann Ball—then that of Mrs. Kenchin—both about 26 years of age and both of the same disease—Consumption. It will be gratifying to know that they were constantly visited by the chaplain and missionary for a considerable time before their death, and that these visits were most welcomed and gratifying to the poor sufferers.

**UNITED STATES.**

In Marshal Township, Highland, Co., a young deaf and dumb man named Mr. Frump met his untimely death on Nov. 1st. He was out chopping, when a limb of a tree that was above him, fell on the back of his head, killing him instantly. The deceased, aged 23 years, was kind and affectionate and seemed to be the favorite of the family and of his friends. On the next day the burial service took place, attended by a large circle of friends, whether Mr. Frump was educated it is not known.

A shocking accident happened to one of the Ohio pupils, in the early part of last Autumn. Master Conduse H. Manor while walking thoughtlessly along the railroad, fell through the cattle guard receiving so severe an injury that he died soon after. The parents of the deceased had entertained high anticipations of the boy receiving a liberal education. He had attended school some four years.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

*For the Gazette*

MR. EDITOR:—The custom of writing newspaper letters after a visit to Boston seems to have become general, and perhaps there may be something in the air of the "Modern Athens" which gives one a literary turn. Be that as it may, the visitor, whether Savan or mere pleasure-seeker, is sure to find in this Metropolis multifarious objects of attraction and interest either to talk or write about upon his return home.

A visit at Dr. Syntax's pleasant and hospitable abode was, and is always, among our most delightful episodes in Boston. The admirable tact and charming vivacity of Mrs. Syntax ever places her guests at ease, and nothing can be more entertaining than to witness the wee signs of the little Syntaxes, but brown-eyed Maud shows a decided preference for the use of her tongue.

We enjoyed the charm of novelty in attending for the first time one of the Annual New Year Levees, held by the mutes at their rooms, No. 221 Washington St. Raphael Paletto having given a graphic account thereof in the February number we need not go over the pleasant scenes of that happy evening, but will remark that a chat with this Nestor among mutes formed one of the chief enjoyments of the occasion.

At these gatherings we have noticed, with regret, a lamentable deficiency of general information among the fair sex, many of whom possess natural intelligence and charming manners; yet from this deficiency are confined to the most ordinary of small talk, and cannot but feel cramped in their intercourse with the hearing world around them.

When we fall in with one, be that one of the masculine or feminine gender, deaf or hearing, dumb or speaking, whose style of converse runs in this wise—"What, what, what—Who, who, who—Why, why, why?"—we take the earliest moment of escape.

We paid a visit to Dr. Howe's school for the blind at South Boston. There were about one hundred pupils present under the instruction of ladies. One gentleman only being employed in the music department. We were struck by the spirit of love and harmony which prevailed among pupils and teachers, spite the incongruous mixture of social rank of all degrees usual at such establishments. We were indebted to Miss Moulton, the excellent and amiable Matron, for much polite attention.

We might here say much upon the new system of teaching mutes inaugurated by Dr. Howe, but will at present say nothing. Were the existing prejudice against the general adoption of the manual alphabet done away with, and its introduction made general in all public schools; one great barrier between the mutes and the hearing would be surmounted and much reciprocal benefit result to both parties. Would some kind genius invent a short-hand alphabet whereby lectures and sermons could be easily and rapidly interpreted by the hearing to the mutes, another advance would be made in our favor.

We did not propose "lionizing," having found by former experience that it becomes the most wearisome way of killing time. But we leisurely paid our respects to the picture rooms of De Vries, Williams & Everett, and the many things of beauty there beheld will linger on our mental vision as a thing of joy forever. Not a few hours were beguiled most delightfully in the reading room of the splendid new Public Library. And we made a flying visit to "Old Harvard." The buildings are scattering and unpretentious. The Library contains busts of former Presidents and eminent men of the

State, among whom were Webster, Everett and Sumner. We were here shown a number of curiosities and were specially interested in a splendidly illuminated volume written long before the art of printing was known. Mr. Harris, the courteous librarian, so far honored us as to allow us to take into our hand for perusal a letter of Washington and Franklin. The remarkably clear and elegant chirography of the latter would put to shame the illegible scrawls which some seem to think a mark of genius. Leaving the Library we proceeded to the room where the students assemble once a month for examination, and found the walls covered with portraits of ye ancient worthies of ye olden town of Boston, Hancock, Adams, Boylston and Madam Boylston who *hung* in solitary full-length grandeur among them all. Why and wherefore the lady was thus distinguished we failed to ascertain, but as we stood before the stately dame we wondered if she had ever indulged in the charms of flirtation, and thought her dignified countenance must repress all inclination to youthful levity in the students there assembled.

But after all this sight seeing we found ourselves, like that most "obstinatest pauper", Oliver Twist, still wanting "more" or rather we had *one* supreme desire above all others to encompass which, we were willing to encounter and overcome quite as many obstacles as that renowned Trojan who went in search of the Golden Fleece. This one wish of our heart was none other than to obtain sight of and if possible an interview with, the immortal author of the above mentioned "Oliver Twist." We resorted to Parker's. The lady clerk said he was out, but would be in at such an hour the next day and receive visitors. Our second endeavor was crowned with more than anticipated success. We stood in the presence of the great novelist, nay he extended his hand and with a beating heart we received his kindly salutation and wrote *ours*. We beheld a countenance grave yet genial; a manner fascinating as his own writings, and felt instinctively that all this gentle breeding proceeded from an innate goodness and nobility which pervades and gives tone to his works. This must be the secret of his being so universally beloved by his admirers. Thackeray looked at the world through smoked glasses and consequently found most favor among the misanthropic, but he had none of Dickens' magnetic power of reaching the heart. Long may the latter live and may the happiness he confers upon others be returned to him with four-fold measure. X. Y. Z.

To the Editor of the *National Deaf-Mute Gazette*.

New York, February 1868.

It gave me a great deal of pleasure to read in your valuable paper of last month a letter addressed to you by a hand unknown to me, relative to the Institution of Deaf-Mutes, of which I have the honor to be the principal, and, indeed, it was not a vain self-love which gave me so much satisfaction at seeing my doings so kindly acknowledged in that letter; for, the profession of a teacher, especially of this unfortunate class is of such kind, that he is to seek and find some acknowledgment in his own work only.—But the pleasure I felt was like that of a gardener, who after having dug up a bed of flowers with great trouble and care, having spread and watered the seed, is looking with love and affection on the growth of it, and who suddenly perceives that beside himself somebody else is secretly looking with some interest on the success of his work, and is giving him, although anonymously, some tokens of his encouragement and acknowledgment. In this sense, I give the writer of that letter my hearty thanks.

As to the difference between Clark's Institute and mine in taking

up the subjects for instruction, I will concede upon the word of the writer, that it is really existing, and although it may seem, on the first view, that the disadvantage in comparing the two systems be on my side, yet I am sure, that every one, after my briefly explaining the system of instruction for the Deaf-Mutes, will easily comprehend that the theory of limiting language to the single subjects of Religion, Geography and Arithmetic in instructing deaf-mutes to acquire language, is a very defective one.

In order to teach the mutes to speak in such a way that they shall understand the spirit of the language, which only can enable them to speak it rightly, it is necessary to enlarge the field of it every where, in going on from the proximal to the distant, from the easy to the difficult, and from the visible to the invisible, as a few examples will demonstrate.

In order to give them the meaning of the words, "to have" and "to be," they are shown: *Man has* a head, which is round or oval, he *has* two hands, which *are* flexible, the animal *has* a head also, but no hands, man thinks and *has* a soul, animals do not and *have* none, etc., all the parts of the body and their qualities.

In this sense we can say, that the children learn "anthropology."

In order to give them the meaning of the word "species" they are shown, that there are animals which live only in the water, and others again which live in our houses with us and are tame, and such ones which live in the woods and which are wild, that there are animals which have hoofs and others which have claws, etc.,

In this sense we can also say that they learn "natural history."

To give them the meaning of the words law and order, they are shown and informed, that the father in the family, the teacher in school, the judge in the town gives laws and orders, etc. etc., and the representatives of the laws give the verdict of "guilty" or "not guilty."

In this sense we can also say they learn the science of law.

However, all this knowledge is not yet an appropriation of special sciences, it contains only deeds and objects which the mutes perceive, as soon as their attention was led to them but could not yet express them in words and proper forms, but through this method they are led to the development of complete conceptions and own ideas.

Therefore I think it will be the opinion of every pedagogue that the teaching of and the entering into the special branches of science is only then practicable, if the deaf mutes are able to express their thoughts and doings in words like hearing children, who have already passed through the elementary classes.

Yours, respectfully

B. ENGELSMANN.

For the Gazette.

#### A Curious Speculation.

At the August Convention, it occurred to the writer to ask some intelligent deaf-mutes whether when they got to Heaven, they thought they would still prefer to converse with each other by gestures. The general opinion seemed to be that they would be too happy to exercise there their newly acquired faculties of hearing and speech. Mr. W. M. Chamberlain, some months later, wrote to me in reference to this question as follows:

"I can't say that I see much good to come of such a speculation, nevertheless, interchange of ideas on the subject can do us no harm.

I believe that every thing we know in the spirit world is the result of study. I hold that we shall go on learning to all eternity; that the chief pleasure of knowing a thing is to have studied it out; and that to be able to instinctively know everything would spoil all, and

render our existence a bore. Hence while I believe that we at death shall immediately be endowed with the power of hearing and speech, yet it seems perfectly reasonable that it should take us more or less time to understand others and to speak so as to be understood. But if we use signs or the manual alphabet among our kind there, we shall also have to *write* to others. If all who get there, of whatever nation or language, do use their own tongue till they get accustomed to the language of Heaven, what a Babel of sounds there must be. This conflicts with my idea of the *harmony* above. We must either allow that there will be more or less of Babel up there, or we must take it for granted that spirits on arrival are miraculously inducted into an instantaneous knowledge of the *one language*—and are able without discord to join in the song of the Redeemed. I do not suppose that the remembrance of earthly life will be blotted out; to do this would leave us without sensible cause for gratitude to the Savior. I believe in no Lethæan cup, because I believe in the recognition of friends in Heaven, and consider this one of the greatest joys in prospective. Indeed, with old Dr. Beecher, I say that if there be no recognition of parents, wives, children, &c, in Heaven then I do not care about going there."

The writer replied substantially to this effect.

Your speculations on the language of the world to come are ingenious. A different and I believe quite new view has occurred to me.

To speech there is necessary a dense atmosphere, a muscular tongue, a vibrating larynx, etc. In heaven we can hardly conceive disembodied spirit to possess these, and if it does, sound is a very slow medium of communication as compared with light. We are much more likely to possess *there* the light, and power of motion and expression which are all that are necessary to a language of gestures.

Moreover, if we assume gestures to be the prevalent language of heaven. You have at once a language that all men understand, more or less, and all have recourse to when thrown among people of diverse speech.

The writer submitted the substance of the foregoing to a distinguished semi-mute poet, who commented rather hastily as follows:

"I am not prepared to say that those who are blind in this world get so partial to groping with a stick as to insist on it in heaven where they will be no blinder than others, nor that those who are deaf-mutes here, although no longer such there, will be waging a war of single handed and double-handed alphabets according to their English or American education, or gyrating their limbs like the sails of a wind mill or making faces "like monkeys." I do hope that we leave all our infirmities and all recollection of them behind us or at least shall not hanker after them. I have always inclined to believe that the communication between heavenly spirits is an intuitive perception of each other's thoughts, without the intervention of the eye, ear, or any material agency."

To which the writer replied:

Your remarks on my theory of a future life are for the most part, not to the purpose. I said nothing of hankering after our infirmities, and had no idea of suggesting that we would, in heaven, be contented with inferior modes of communication because we had been accustomed to them here. However ludicrous be the spectacle you conjure up of a company of deaf-mutes newly arrived, some spelling with one hand, while others insist on spelling with both, it is not more so than that of a company of which some insist on bawling in Broad Scotch, some in High Dutch, some in Choctaw, and so on to the end of the polyglots, whereas you know deaf-mutes from every corner of the earth will, speedily understand each other, by the means of gestures. And as to "Monkey" gesticulation and grimaces, is that more likely to be carried to an offensive degree

than the parrot and magpie chattering of those who speak? For there is at least as much senseless chattering among these in this world as there is of "monkey" gesticulation among deaf mutes.

But as I said, all this is not to the purpose. What I urged was that in the ethereal atmosphere, magnificent distances and unobstructed prospects of Heaven, gestures will not be the *inferior* but the *superior* mode of communication. If there be in Heaven such dense air as is necessary to convey sound, and if disembodied spirits possess such solid muscularity as is necessary to vocal impulses—yet does it seem credible that an archangel, mounted on a hill to make proclamation, would put it forth in vocal words that will travel, at the fastest, less than a quarter of a mile in a second, while he could, by his gestures and speaking countenance flash his message two hundred thousand miles around in the same portion of time? It would be many years ere the message, at the slow rate of sound, would reach those "Far off among the shining rows that circle out through endless space."

One thing however, you do say that is to the purpose, to wit:

"I have always inclined to believe that the communication between heavenly spirits is an intuitive perception of each others, thoughts, without the intervention of eye, ear or any material agency."

Let us examine that. In heaven then, according to this theory meeting another spirit, you read at once his whole thought; not as here, only so much of it as he chooses to put before you. Well, that may offer no inconvenience in Heaven, though it would be intolerable *here*. But farther, by the same rule, he ought to be able to read not only your actual thought, but if he will take the trouble, all your past existence even to its most secret sins. Will Heaven be a comfortable place to a sensitive spirit thus laid bare to the universal gaze?

"But how are we to read the thoughts of other spirits, unless those thoughts be woven in a texture of words or signs familiar to us? If we find the volume open, will we be able to trace the characters? Your thoughts run in English phrases. Meeting old Homer, whose thoughts ran in Greek, will you be able to follow him? And these speculations lead to the question; How are we to think in the other world? We leave behind here in the dust our brain and nerves with all their belongings. Is not it probable, judging by all we know that memory and consciousness will cease, till we are supplied with that "spiritual body" spoken of by the apostle Paul?

Some "material agency," (that of the brain) is here as necessary to thought as to communication. Can we conceive it otherwise in heaven?

Having thus given the views of several mutes and semi-mutes on this curious question, I invite remarks from others.

Jan. 29th, 1868.

J. R. B.

*For the Gazette.*

MR. EDITOR:—Allow me through the medium of the *Gazette* to suggest that every deaf mute who has been a pupil of Mr. Clerc, and others who wish to join them, should send at once the sum of one dollar to Rev. Mr. Fisher of this city, the treasurer of the fund for Mr. Clerc. Those who can give more will doubtless be happy to do so, but in this way all may have a part in doing a substantial good where it is needed, and testifying their esteem and gratitude to that pioneer of deaf mute education in America.

TO-DAY.

Hartford, Feb. 15.

The murderer of Louisa Krause, the beautiful Berlin lorette, is a deaf-mute, and only eighteen years old. He asserts that she attempted to take from him his pocket book, containing only four dollars.

*For the Gazette.*

### The Fifty-First Report.

Not unfrequently we try to penetrate the future and form some distinct idea of the world as it will be fifty years hence, and we fail in the effort. Our vision into the coming time is dim and misty, and we turn away and look into the past with a feeling of relief. Just now this is the case with me. I have on my table the Fifty-First Annual Report of the American Asylum and have been poring over it for hours. Odd, some will say. Very natural; they are not in my position and have not, for thirty years, been separated by a thousand miles from the scenes of their school-days.

I have been querying with myself how it would have been could Messrs. Gallaudet and Clerc but foreseen the end of their life-labor. Did they not, at times, endeavor to form some idea of the grand result as it might appear at the end of the first half century? They had been in the Paris school, and from the success there knew that they could succeed here; but they had a universal doubt and distrust to overcome and knew that a few months or years of success would overcome it. Surely they must have felt, amid all the trials and difficulties of a beginning, that they were to enjoy a splendid triumph in due season. But the question that occurs is: Did they venture to look fifty years ahead?

My daily morning mail was laid on the table; and having dispatched the letters I commenced on the newspapers. The first I picked out I found it to be the Fifty-first Report. For an hour I gave attention to nought else. Running rapidly through the names of Directors and teachers, and, at the same pace, through the body of the Report, I came to and went more slowly through the names of the pupils of the fifty years. The day and its labors passed and evening came. Again the Report was opened and thoroughly studied. Weeks came and went and mute friends called and the Report was frequently in requisition. A young couple, who left Hartford but a few years ago, spent some ten days with me and the Report proved an invaluable treasure. On two different evenings the two visitors were questioned regarding old acquaintances whose names were in that Report. Friends and facts of the past forty years were brought forth from memory and made to pass in review. The finger would glide along the list of seventeen hundred names, and stop here and there for recollection to make an effort, or to ask questions. What a multitude of familiar faces were brought up clear before us—not as they are, alas!—but as they were when they were younger than now, and what stories were told—stories not invented, for the actualities had been strange enough in the lapse of years, and some of them were amusing enough also. How Mr. W—, on several occasions, pressed his hands closely on his mouth, and, at the denouement, sprang from his seat and worked about the room in an agony of laughter, holding himself with his hands and arms tightly clasped around his own body. All this is one of the sequences of embodying the names of half a century of pupils in the Fifty-first Report, and here let me express my sincere obligations to Mr. Stone, the principal, for favoring me with a copy.

What will be the grand summing up in the Report of fifty years hence? Who can tell? Probably none of us who have passed the age of forty will live to see the year 1917. Possibly—that is supposing there is any truth in Spiritualism—the American deaf-mutes in the other world, and perhaps joined by those of all nations, may hold a convention of thousands among the upper spheres and attend in one vast invisible body the convention on earth of 1917. Such convention doubtless will be held at some central point in our country, the latter, may be, comprising the north half of the continent. The deaf-mutes of that coming time will, as a general rule, be much be-



ter educated than the present and will have their newspaper organ, something larger than the "wee little thing" we have now. I am stating all this on the supposition that the advance of medical science fails to discover, in the fifty years, a cure for or a prevention of deafness. That as time advances, the world becomes more enlightened and grows better, that disease decreases and life is lengthened we all know; and some time in the distant future, some hundreds or thousands of years hence, deafness and blindness and all other forms of bodily ill will be either unknown or exceedingly rare; and the buildings erected for the blind, the deaf, the insane, and the unfortunate and criminal of all kinds will be turned to general educational and other uses. But I have wandered from the object in hand.

Looking closely over the Fifty-first Report, I find that the number of pupils at Hartford in the fifty years—including those now present—is seventeen hundred. Of these two hundred and sixty-six—a careful count may vary the figures slightly—have died. I observe that of my acquaintances the greatest proportion of deaths is among those who, naturally or by accident, were of inferior constitution or defective vitality. It strikes me as a little singular that none of those marked "Idiotic" are dead. Does mere vegetation without brains conduce to longevity? My impression had been, and still is, that it shortens life, but, at all events, the subject is worthy of inquiry.

Leaving the list of pupils, I turn to that of instructors. It will be forty years next May since I entered the school in 1828. Of all the teachers of forty years ago the name of only one is on the active list, and he is Mr. Whiton. The rest are all dead or have retired. And this is the work of forty years. With the exception named the change is complete down the whole page. Merciless and inexorable is the sweep of time!

Next in order are the Directors. Stars against almost every name. Many of them I remember well. They were of use in their day and generation according to the light that was in and around them. Those who remain have more light doubtless, and those who succeed the present will have more still. We may hope.

After the directors comes the list of Principals and Instructors, past and present. Four Principals and fifty teachers, besides eleven others in branches out of the regular course. Of these, two Principals and ten teachers are dead. Ten teachers out of fifty in a half century does not indicate that the work, though exhausting to the physical system, tends to shorten life. Or is it that complete prostration was avoided by resignation? Certainly in some cases as I know. But ten deaths out of fifty in fifty years is a remarkably small ratio. The teachers of that period entered on their duties as young men, and a large proportion of them have now passed middle life. The next ten years may take off as many as the last fifty. The Report of 1877 will mark them with stars, indicating thereby that their home is among the stars above.

I have one fault to find with the Report and it was, no doubt, an inadvertence on the part of Mr. Stone. In the list of Matrons and Assistant Matrons Martha Dudley's name is omitted. During the stewardship of H. P. Peet, Mrs. Peet was Matron nominally. Miss Dudley was Assistant Matron, but Matron in fact. The name of the latter was not on the annual Reports of that time, and hence probably the omission now. Of the predecessors of Miss Dudley in that department I know nothing. But Miss Dudley was a genuine lady, noble in nature as in aspect, kind, loving and beloved by her charge. This is the universal testimony of all who were pupils during the time she was there, and until Mr. Peet assumed the office of Principal of the N. Y. Institution and took her with him to

preside over the same department in that school. And I am happy to say here that in Mrs. Phebe C. White Miss Dudley has a worthy successor. Among the entire range of pupils of the last twenty-nine years the expression in Mrs. White's favor appears to be unanimous.

In the course of the past thirty years I have had as guests many who have been pupils at Hartford, New York, Philadelphia and various western Institutions. It is related of John C. Calhoun that in mature age some of his happiest hours were when he was talking of the student days he passed at Yale College. The same, doubtless, is true of many others, and it is true of deaf-mutes when they meet, at long intervals, and converse on their school-days, provided they have been blessed with well-qualified and faithful teachers. Always on such occasions the old topic of school-days comes up. The conversation takes a wide range, and embraces a few or many years according to the degree in point of time of the visitors' information. Invariably the Principal and the Matron are of chief interest in the discussion when it turns on personalities, and for the reason that on these two more depends than on the assistants. The latter, however, come in for a due share of attention if worth it, and for a brief notice if worthless. Always they speak with love and respect of Mr. Gallaudet. Mr. Weld, too, secured the universal regard by his resolute honesty, his enlarged judgment and his fatherly care. It is always a pleasure to talk of Mr. Clerc; and Edward and Thomas Gallaudet are spoken of by all as worthy sons of an idolized sire. Dr. Peet also comes in for a share of the laudation, and all old pupils know well that at Hartford he was among our very best and most successful teachers. All who are acquainted with the son of the Doctor agree that on him the mantle of the father is well bestowed. Only one more I will mention, for I am treading dangerous ground. D. E. Bartlett I knew thirty-five years ago, and every account represents him as the same large-hearted and enthusiastic instructor and no way changed save as time has performed its legitimate work on his physique.

I have digressed again and will say but few words more. I suspect that those who prepare the Report at the end of each decade little know the importance of the work in which they are engaged. To intelligent graduates, who have long since left school and are passing down the vale of years, a Report of this nature is invaluable. It brings the whole life of our *Alma Mater* before us. We see her as we see a venerated mother. Her virtues we recognize and mention with pleasure, and her defects we would fain forget, knowing well that few public institutions are faultless, and trusting that time and an ever-advancing civilization and larger enlightenment will not be without their good results. Nay, we are certain that the future will be better than the past, and the educated graduates themselves will conduce much in that direction and far more than hitherto.

SENEX.

For the Gazettee.

JOHN SMITH.

Schools for the Deaf and Dumb.

"Oh, joy, joy!" exclaimed John Smith, stamping his foot on the floor. "The Legislature of Massachusetts passed a law, which is now in force, so much the better for us and those to succeed us"—he grinned from ear to ear like Jupiter in Poe's "Gold Bug"—to the eternal credit of the Bay State, the Legislature passed a law authorizing the establishment in the State of *three* schools for deaf mutes when occasion might require. Best of all, there has already been established at Northampton one school of this kind, upon the foundation of the State Treasury. And the marvel, nay, the miracle is that a similar

school should have been inaugurated in Maryland, almost within view of the blessed National College. Now, indeed, there is everything to hope for the future of the deaf-mutes of America."

I took the liberty of expressing the opinion that Delaware would one day have a school established within its limits, for the instruction of her deaf mutes.

My friend said,—“I think so, too. I have not the least doubt that small, wee, little Rhode Island will soon lead in the movement. New Jersey will follow in her wake; of course she will. I opine that the time has come when another school besides the one at Philadelphia must be established in Pennsylvania. And so, too, with regard to New York.”

John Smith believes in small schools as an effectual means of elevating the standard of deaf-mute education. Woe be to large schools for these unfortunates, he says, and he pooh-poohs the idea of classification in a large school of 225 to 300 children, upon which so much stress has been laid. He says that in a large, crowded school we may not expect, nay, it is impossible for us to expect, to look upon the like of John Carlin again.

“John Carlin,” said my friend, “dates his education in the then small school at Philadelphia, where studied several who have in after years risen to a higher life. A class-mate of his, a beautiful young lady, married a speaking gentleman, and has had the satisfaction of seeing her children marry into wealthy families. Another of his class-mates, now in the grave, rose to be the best lithographic engraver in the country. And still another was elected Recorder of deeds by the popular vote, over a speaking man.”

Mr. Backus, the editor of the *Radius*, the first deaf mute, by the way, who published a newspaper on this side of the Atlantic; Edmund Booth, the editor of the Iowa *Eureka*; James J. Flournoy of Georgia; George H. Loring of Boston—all these studied within the walls of a small school in Hartford yonder. My friend John Smith was, or at least claimed to have been, the first to agitate the question of dispensing with large schools in the work of imparting instruction to the deaf and dumb. A small school, he thinks, accomplishes prodigies. I know something of this agency from my own experience. For example, my school-mate, Miss Ellen G. Martin,—called to the heavenly rest—was the most elegant letter writer the “land of silence” ever produced. The Kentucky Institution has never been, to use the words of a certain teacher, a “large, overcrowded school,” and yet it has produced several distinguished pupils such as James G. George, Miss Hearn, and others. Mr. George is a writer of no mean repute.

John Smith spoke of the change of sentiment he now met, compared with what he witnessed four years ago when a college for deaf mutes was pronounced worse than an impossibility if in America we may use the word. The erection of what is called “the National College for deaf-mutes,” said he, “at the capitol of the United States, under the supervision of Congress, was the crowning effort of Mr. Gallaudet for the elevation of these unfortunates to all the blessings, civil and spiritual, wherewith he delights to make them free. He, Mr. Gallaudet, has a mighty work to do for their redemption from the half-savage state in which they are kept by the wretched system of teaching universally in vogue. Thank God that the sun now rises upon this college, the center of attraction for all intelligent deaf-mutes of both sexes who desire to be well versed in the whole curriculum of study.”

“As I cast my eyes back over the events of the past few years, continued he, “I am filled with mingled emotions of the liveliest joy and the saddest grief—joy, that we boast a college which affords many and excellent accommodations for all the purposes of a superior first

class seminary; and grief, that there ever was occasion for excitement at this necessary innovation upon the old educational system. Mr. Gallaudet, mere boy as he is, has already exerted a very prominent influence in the educational world as a teacher of deaf-mutes.”

He is a good man and true, this Gallaudet; and we all know that he never falters in his attachment to a work so near his heart. His scheme of christian aims and methods are of the largest type. We invoke the blessings of Heaven upon his excellent mother. If it had not been for her, we may have had no college established for our especial benefit. “It grieves me to the heart,” said John Smith lately, “to hear that in getting the start of the college good Mr. Gallaudet has incurred the displeasure of the principals of several of the leading Institutions. There is no help for it, though; for we cannot please everybody. We wanted a college, and he undertook the job, reckless of consequences. Under his care and management, the college has succeeded to a surprising degree, and has steadily increased in its patronage, drawing its pupils largely from distant sections of the country. The faculty is complete, and of a high order of qualifications.”

John Smith rejoices, of course, that Mr. John Carlin and Prof. James Denison have each received the degree of A. M., but he wonders why the same degree has not been conferred upon Mr. Burnet, Mr. Booth, Mr. George or Mr. Nack. These gentlemen write as well as if they had gone to college; write far better than many speaking A. M.'s. I mean no offence, but the truth must be known.

THE MANUAL ALPHABET.

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MR. EDITOR :—Please publish these lines in your paper.

A beautiful fifteen tableaux was held at the hall of the Deaf-Mute Literary Association for the benefit of the Deaf-Mute Mission on Tuesday evening Nov. 26th 1867. It was largely attended, the audience, being comprised chiefly of hearing ladies and gentlemen.

A scene not in the bills here took place. The lace curtains took fire. The players (all deaf-mutes) rushed to the scene and extinguished it. The hall of the Deaf-Mute Literary Association which belongs to Calvary Church thus had a narrow escape from destruction.

William Cullingworth's hand was badly burnt. Mr. Charles O'Brien's hand was also badly burnt—as also was Miss—

Rev. Dr. Clerc's hand was hurt more than the others.

The Steam Engines and Hose companies were on the spot promptly but the fire had been extinguished. The occasion caused much excitement.

A novel play was performed by Mr. A. B. Carlin representing the Santo Claus of the North Pole, at the hall of the Deaf-Mute Literary Association on Thursday evening Dec 26th 1867.

It was largely attended. More than 20 mutes from various parts of the State who came to spend their Christmas were present.

An artificial fire place with a shelf was set on the platform in which he performed several amusing tricks, and recited poetries selected for Christmas.

Our respected Vice President, William Cullingworth, had his right ankle sprained, in the act of wrestling with another deaf-mute in sport on Saturday evening Dec 6th 1867. He has been confined at home six weeks, but he is getting along well now.

Philadelphia January 21st. 1868 A. F. M.

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☞ There is a man out West who drinks so much whiskey that mosquitos that bite him die of “delirium tremens.”

The recent death of Hattie F. L. Nye, a deaf mute, daughter of Mr. Albert G. Nye, of this city, has recalled to our recollection a poem entitled "The Dumb Child," published originally in the *Home Journal*. Willis speaks of it as a "poem unsurpassed."

The child of Mr. Nye was about six years old, and nothing that a mother's tenderness could do had been left undone, to supply the defect which had been born with her. Some progress had been made; and the word the dearest of all, "Mother," uttered by the lips when the power of speech is first given, had been uttered, when the little one was called, with no defect of speech or vision, to join in the songs of the angels.

Had Hattie lived, she would soon have been a pupil at the Clarke Institution for Deaf Mutes, at Northampton. This Institution, recently established in Northampton, in this State, and which has received "the most liberal endowment," to use the words of Gov. Bullock, in his recent message, "ever made to a similar institution on this continent," has, again to quote from the message, "by the progress which has been made by the pupils, excited the admiration of experienced instructors among the visitors." "I have no hesitation," says the Governor, "in urging the Legislature to cherish it kindly."

The Son of God is not now here to bid the dumb speak, but when, under the influence of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the venerable John Clarke founded the school for the mutes, at Northampton, he sent a thrill of hope and joy through the heart of many a parent by whom the "sweet music of speech" from their little ones had never been heard.

#### THE DUMB CHILD.

She was my only girl,  
I asked for her as some most precious thing,  
For all unfinished was love's jewelled ring,  
Till set with this soft pearl.  
The shadow time brought forth, I could not see;  
How pure, how perfect, seemed the gift to me!  
Oh! many a soft old tune  
I used to sing into that deafened ear,  
And suffered not the slightest footstep near,  
Lest she might wake too soon;  
And hushed her brothers' laughter while she lay:  
Ah! needless care! I might have let them play.  
'Twas long ere I believed  
That this one daughter might not speak to me;  
Waited and watched—God knows how patiently!  
How willingly deceived.  
Vain love was long the untiring muse of faith,  
And tender hope, untill it starved to death.  
Oh! if she could but hear  
For one short hour, that I her tongue might teach  
To call me mother, in the broken speech  
That thrills the mother's ear!  
Alas! those sealed lips may ne'er be stirred  
To the deep music of that holy word,  
My heart it sorely tries,  
To see her kneel with such a reverent air  
Besides her brothers at their evening prayer,  
Or lift those earnest eyes  
To watch our lips as though our words she knew,  
Then move her own as she were speaking too.  
I've watched her looking up  
To the bright wonder of a sunset sky,  
With such a depth of meaning in her eye  
That I could almost hope  
The struggling soul would burst its binding cords,  
And the long-pent-up thoughts flow forth in words.  
The song of bird and bee,  
The chorus of the breezes, streams and groves,  
All the grand music to which nature moves,  
Are wasted melody  
To her; the world of sound a tuneless void;  
While even silence hath its charm destroyed.  
Her face is very fair;  
Her blue eye beautiful; of finest mould  
The soft white brow, o'er which in waves of gold  
Ripples her shining hair.  
Alas! this lovely temple closed must be;  
For He who made it keeps the master key.  
Wills He the mind within  
Should from earth's Babel clamor be kept free,

E'er that His still, small voice and step might be  
Heard at its inner shrine,  
Through that deep hush of soul, with clearer thrill?  
Then, should I grieve? O, murmuring heart, be still.

See seems to have a sense  
Of quiet gladness; in her noiseless play  
She hath a pleasant smile, a gentle way,  
Whose noiseless eloquence  
Touches all hearts, though I had once the fear  
That e'en her father would not care for her.

Thank God it is not so!  
And when his sons are playing merrily,  
She comes and calmly leans upon his knee.  
Oh, at such times I know,  
By his full eye, and voice subdued and mild,  
How his full heart yearns o'er his silent child.

Not of all gifts bereft  
E'en now. How could I say she could not speak?  
What real language lights her eye and cheek,  
And speaks of Him who left  
Unto her soul yet open avenues  
For joy to enter and for love to use!

And God in love doth give  
To her defect a beauty of its own;  
And we a deeper tenderness have known  
Through that for which we grieve.  
Yet shall the seal be melted from her ear;  
Yea, and my voice shall fill it—but not here.

When that new sense is given,  
What rapture will its first experience be,  
That never woke to meaner melody  
Than the rich song of heaven—  
To hear the full-toned anthem swelling round,  
While angels teach the ecstasies of sound!

New Bedford Standard



Near Franklin, Ind., Jan. 15, 1868, Polly Ann Dillman (Indiana Deaf Mute Institute) to a hearing person.



In Lancaster, N. H., August 4, 1866, Oliver C. Allard, son of Alonzo Allard.

In Delavan, Wisconsin, Feb. 6, 1868, Willie, oldest son of H. W. Milligan, Superintendent of Institution for Deaf and Dumb, of gastric fever.

In Hamlet, N. Y., Dec. 6, 1867, Alonzo H. Ewing, aged 54 years and 10 months.

In the Ohio Institution for Deaf and Dumb, Jan. 7th, Mrs. Emma Barrett, aged 56 years.

DEAF MUTES.—The Deaf Mutes of Allentown, Pennsylvania, met in the Vestry Room of Grace (Episcopal) Church last evening and organized themselves into a Literary Association. An election for officers resulted in the unanimous election of Mr. Edwin Saeger as Chairman and James Morony as Secretary. We shall speak at greater length on this subject in a few days. Jan 28 1868

☞ Facts are stubborn.